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THE WHITE HOUSE  
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90503

TOP SECRET Attachment

July 12, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Report of SSG Meeting

The Vice President has approved the attached Summary of Decisions/Actions from the July 12, 1982 SSG Meeting.



William P. Clark

Distribution (Eyes Only)

The Vice President  
Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger  
Acting Secretary Walter J. Stoessel  
Director William Casey  
Ambassador Jeane J. Kirkpatrick  
General John W. Vessey

TOP SECRET Attachment

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90503SPECIAL SITUATION GROUP MEETING

DATE, TIME                      July 12, 1982, 5:05 - 6:10 p.m.  
 AND PLACE:                    White House Situation Room

SUBJECT:                      Possible Iranian Invasion of Iraq

## PARTICIPANTS:

The Vice President

JCS

General John W. Vessey

State

Acting Secretary

White House

Walter J. Stoessel

Mr. Edwin Meese, III

Mr. Nicholas Veliotos

Mr. James A. Baker, III

Mr. Michael K. Deaver

Defense

Mr. William P. Clark

Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger

Mr. Robert C. McFarlane

CIAThe Vice President's Office

Mr. William J. Casey

Admiral Daniel J. Murphy

Mr. Robert Gates

NSCUSUN

Mr. Geoffrey Kemp

Ambassador Harvey Feldman

Summary of Decisions/Actions

After reviewing the latest intelligence reports which anticipate an Iranian invasion within the next 24-48 hours, our diplomatic initiatives and military options were discussed. The main points covered were as follows:

-- A UNSC resolution calling for a ceasefire and withdrawal of forces may be presented in New York this evening or tomorrow. The U.S. would support such a resolution but its impact upon Iran is expected to be zero.

-- We have various military assets in the Indian Ocean including a carrier battle group and limited pre-positioned stocks at Diego Garcia. Two NTPS are enroute to Australia from the Indian Ocean and could be recalled. We could get elements of the RDJTF to the area in 7-10 days. A squadron of F-15s could get to Saudi Arabia (Dharhan) in two days and a wing in four days. Our AWACs aircraft in Saudi Arabia could provide additional intelligence.

-- We have a great interest in improving our ability to cooperate militarily with the Saudis including contingency

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Review July 12, 2012

Extended by William P. Clark

Reason: NSC 1.13(c)

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planning and joint exercises. We should use this crisis to press the Saudis for more explicit military cooperation though the crisis in Lebanon and the close identification of the U.S. with Israel's invasion may have made such cooperation more difficult at this time.

The SSG then reviewed a list of nine contingency measures which had been prepared at a working meeting over the weekend by the crisis pre-planning group in the White House. The proposals for your consideration were as follows:

Proposals:

1. A Presidential letter to King Fahd, perhaps carried by a Special Emissary, that describes our concerns and states our readiness to cooperate in the defense of the Kingdom.
2. Seek visible joint military exercises or demonstrations with Oman and/or Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Specifically, propose a bilateral air defense exercise with Saudi Arabia involving the deployment of a squadron of F-15s and/or an air defense HAWK battalion.
3. Develop specific combined contingency plans for the deployment of U.S. aircraft and air defense units to Saudi Arabia in order to facilitate such a deployment if the Saudis request it.

SSG Recommendations:

Defer any such letter and actions until Ambassador Murphy reports back from Saudi Arabia on meetings with the King and Prince Sultan sounding out their interest and wishes on such matters.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal:

4. Messages to Jordan, Egypt, the Peninsula states, and Pakistan expressing support and suggesting immediate consultations on the threat.

SSG Recommendation:

State to prepare messages listing ways we can provide concrete help, as well as consultations.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

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Proposal:

5. Initiate with our allies an UNSC resolution calling for cease-fire, withdrawal, negotiations, and war relief measures.

SSG Recommendation:

Initiative already underway including more intensive consultations with allies on other ways we can cooperate with them in the military arena. (UN Resolution adopted last night.)

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal:

6. Public statements opposing acquisition of territory by force and raising the perception of the gravity of the situation.

SSG Recommendation:

No public statement at this time on this issue but State to prepare general press guidance in event that UN resolution is adopted.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal:

7. Develop Congressional briefings that make clear the character of U.S. interests in the region, threats to those interests, and feasible courses of action that the U.S. may take to protect American interests.

SSG Recommendation:

State Department to prepare.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal:

8. Consider providing airlift and logistic support for any Jordanian and/or Egyptian deployments to Gulf States.

SSG Recommendation:

Agreed that this was a good idea but would only be required in event of threats to Arab Gulf countries not including Iraq. Would require reporting to Congress under the War Powers Act.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

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Proposal:

9. Contingency press guidance.

SSG Recommendation:

State Department to prepare general statement dependent upon outcome of UN vote on ceasefire resolution and actual outbreak of hostilities.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

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